



# THE CONNECTION NEWSLETTER

LINKING HEALTH AGENCIES AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS THAT WORK  
WITH MINORITIES IN UTAH

February 2009 Issue # 32

Page 1



Dr. Carter G. Woodson

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

February is National Black Month

New UDOH Report Series Discusses Minority Health (I)

New UDOH Report Series Discusses Minority Health (II)

Trainings/Events

Grants

Multicultural Brown Bags

CLIK HERE FOR A PDF OR  
PRINTABLE VERSION OF  
*The Connection*

## FEBRUARY IS NATIONAL BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Black History Month had its origins in the United States and was the idea of African American Scholar and educator Dr. Carter G. Woodson. Dr. Woodson was one of the first Black Americans to receive a Ph.D. from Harvard University. In 1922 at the age of 47, he gave up his distinguished career as a university professor to dedicate himself to research and writing on the African American experience. Among Dr. Woodson's publications are *The Education of the Negro Prior to 1861*; *History of the Negro Church*; *Negro Makers of History*; *African Heroes and Heroines*; and perhaps his most famous book, *The Miseducation of the Negro*.

Dr. Woodson argued that the African American experience was a worthy subject of study. He also called for a time when the "hidden history and culture" of American peoples could be celebrated. In 1926, Dr. Woodson declared Black History Week. February was chosen for this week because of the birthdays of Frederick Douglas and Abraham Lincoln. In the 1970's this call became entrenched as several Black organizations and community leaders have banded together to promote the concept of Black History Month. In Nova Scotia, the celebration of Black History Month, through the efforts of the Black History Month Association has steadily grown with more events being presented and escalating attendance figures. The celebration of Black History Month is the most enduring legacy of Dr. Carter G. Woodson, a profound scholar of African American History.

Source: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/news/thisweek/2006/020106/blkhismo.htm>



February is National Black Month

New UDOH Report Series  
Discusses Minority Health (I)New UDOH Report Series  
Discusses Minority Health (II)

Trainings/Events

Grants

Multicultural Brown Bags

## NEW UDOH REPORT SERIES DISCUSSES MINORITY HEALTH

The Utah Department of Health (UDOH) Center for Multicultural Health, is publishing a series of brief reports that discuss Utah racial and ethnic minority health: Utah Health Disparities Summaries 2009: The Center has already released the first two reports, “African-Americans/Blacks” and “Pacific Islanders”. In the coming weeks, UDOH will release reports on the state’s three other prominent racial/ethnic groups—Hispanic/Latino, Asian and American Indian. Planned release dates are Feb. 11, Feb. 25, and March 11, respectively. All Utah Health Disparities Summaries will be available by National Minority Health Month in April.

The reports were written by a team of health department employees from the Center for Multicultural Health and the Bureaus of Health Promotion and Maternal and Child Health. The data analysis and report design process lasted several months, with community members from the racial and ethnic groups giving ongoing feedback as drafts were created.

“I’m extremely pleased with the development and release of this targeted health summary,” said Betty Sawyer, director of the Harambee African American Tobacco and Health Network. “The information will be a valuable tool to assist state and local health departments and other health professionals in not only understanding African-American health indicators, but more importantly, incorporating them into targeted service delivery prioritizations.”

“Creating a unique report for each racial and ethnic group has started a dialogue between health department employees and minority community members about these health inequities,” said April Young Bennett, UDOH Multicultural Health Specialist. “In addition, our research has helped reveal the health issues that these communities consider priorities and also uncovered areas where we need to provide more data in the future,” she added.

Data came from several sources, including Utah birth and death certificates, The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey, the Utah Healthcare Access Survey, the Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System and the American Community Survey. When they add value, other Utah and national data sources are also referenced.

When published, each report will be added to this website:

<http://www.health.utah.gov/cmh/data/disparitiessummary.html>

The Salt Lake Tribune is doing a series of articles based on these reports. See these links:

[http://www.sltrib.com/news/ci\\_11574288](http://www.sltrib.com/news/ci_11574288)

[http://www.sltrib.com/ci\\_11463621?IADID](http://www.sltrib.com/ci_11463621?IADID)

The KSL Radio show, Cultural Connections, will feature these reports. An episode will air on KSL at 11:00 am on the Sunday following the publication of each report. You can also listen to these shows on your computer at any time at this website: [http://pandora.bonnint.net/audio/cultural\\_connections.rss](http://pandora.bonnint.net/audio/cultural_connections.rss)

To listen to the shows that have already aired, see:

[http://pandora.bonnint.net/audio/2009\\_02\\_01\\_cultural\\_connections.mp3](http://pandora.bonnint.net/audio/2009_02_01_cultural_connections.mp3)

[http://pandora.bonnint.net/audio/2009\\_01\\_25\\_cultural\\_connections.mp3](http://pandora.bonnint.net/audio/2009_01_25_cultural_connections.mp3)

*More Page 3*



February is National Black Month

New UDOH Report Series Discusses  
Minority Health (I)New UDOH Report Series Discusses  
Minority Health (II)

Trainings/Events

Grants

Multicultural Brown Bags

## NEW UDOH REPORT SERIES DISCUSSES MINORITY HEALTH (CONT)

### Utah African-Americans/Blacks

New data show that Utah's African-American and Black communities lag behind whites and other Utahns in critical health measures, including prenatal care, infant mortality, and health insurance coverage.

- 1 in 5 African-American/Blacks are uninsured compared to 1 in 9 Utahns overall.
- 15.7% have no usual source of health care compared to 9.8% in Utah overall.
- 47% lack adequate prenatal care. Overall, 18.6% of Utah women report inadequate prenatal care.
- An infant death rate of 10.6 per 1,000 live births, compared to 4.4 per 1,000 overall.
- 14.1% of babies are born preterm. The overall Utah rate is 9.5%.
- 10.5% of babies are low birth weight compared to 6.8 percent overall.

At 22.0%, the smoking rate is twice the overall Utah rate of 11.1%.

But the picture is not all bad. The data also show important strengths unique to the groups.

- Coronary heart disease and cancer death rates are lower than among U.S. African-American/Blacks and meet state and national targets.
- Fewer African-American/Black Utahns report problems from poor physical health than the general state population.

For more information, see the complete report at [www.health.utah.gov/cmh/data/disparitiessummary/blackfactsheet.pdf](http://www.health.utah.gov/cmh/data/disparitiessummary/blackfactsheet.pdf)

### Utah Pacific Islanders

New data show that Utah's Pacific Islanders face health challenges. Pacific Islanders' high obesity rate is linked to their high gestational diabetes and infant death rates. Utah Pacific Islander rates of other obesity-related diseases, such as heart disease and diabetes, are similar to state rates, when statistically adjusted for age.

The obesity rate of Utah Pacific Islanders is 49.2%. That is twice the state rate of 21.3% and triple the target rate of 15% for 2010.

Gestational diabetes affects 6.6% of Pacific Islander women giving birth. The state rate is 3.2%.

Prenatal care is inadequate for 52.7% of Pacific Islanders giving birth in Utah, in spite of having health insurance coverage at about equal rates to the state average. Overall, 18.6% of Utah mothers lack adequate prenatal care.

The infant death rate, 8.0/1,000 births, is higher than the target rate of 4.4 for 2010.

Some strengths of Utah Pacific Islanders were also highlighted:

A low smoking rate

Low death rates from heart disease and stroke

For more information, see the complete report at <http://www.health.utah.gov/cmh/data/disparitiessummary/PacificIslanderFactSheet.pdf>

*Submitted by April Y. Bennett, MPA  
CMH Health Program Specialist*



## February is National Black Month

New UDOH Report Series  
Discusses Minority Health (I)

New UDOH Report Series  
Discusses Minority Health (II)

Trainings/Events

Grants

Multicultural Brown Bags

## TRAININGS / EVENTS

The Rape Recovery Center is partnering with The City Library to host a five-part Community Forum Series. The Forums present an opportunity to discuss **sexual violence and the impact it has on our community**. The Forums begin at 7:00 p.m. at The City Library, 210 East 400 South, and are free and open to the public.

The first Community Forum on Thursday, February 12<sup>th</sup> will center on a panel discussion of Alice Sebold's critically acclaimed memoir's *Lucky*. The non-fictional account is the author's experience as a victim of rape in the criminal justice system. The February 12<sup>th</sup> panel will be moderated by Holly Mullen and include representatives from the Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office, Salt Lake County District Attorney's Office, the Salt Lake City Police Department, and Rape Recovery Center.

### Ogden-Weber Applied Technology College Celebrates Black History Month 2009

"Quest for Black Citizenship in the Americas"

Thursday, February 19, 2009 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

OWATC Union Building 200 N. Washington Boulevard, Ogden, Utah

Presenters:

- Dr. Freddie Cooper, Educator, Advocate and Community Leader
- Dr. David O. Akombo, Associate Professor of Music at Weber State University, Acclaimed musician, dancer and ethnomusicologist.

Beginning on April 13th PBS will air an exciting 5 part mini-series. We Shall Remain is a groundbreaking mini-series and provocative **multi-media project that establishes Native history as an essential part of American history**.

There's more, KUED in partnership with Utah tribes is just completing a mini-series about the five tribes of Utah that is scheduled to air sometimes in June of 2009.

Check out the PBS website link to view the trailers and for additional information on the American Indian.

[http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/weshallremain/the\\_films/index](http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/weshallremain/the_films/index)

The Utah Antidiscrimination and Labor Division is currently **seeking appointment of three individuals to our Advisory Committee**. Current openings are for one representative of employee communities and two openings for general public representatives.

The Committee itself consists of 3 employee representative, 3 employer representatives, 3 general public representatives, 2 property owner/manager representatives, and 2 tenant representatives. More information <http://www.laborcommission.utah.gov/>

### Free health screenings

Saturday, March 14

10 am-2 pm

Utah Cultural Celebration Center 1355 W 3100 S WVC, UT

call 800-869-5277 for appointment

sponsored by National Kidney Foundation



## GRANTS

Utah's Tobacco Prevention and Control Program (TPCP) is releasing **funding opportunities for community-based organizations that reach under-served populations in Utah**. Find information and download the mini-grant application at <http://www.tobaccofreeutah.org/statemini2009.htm>

Application due February 19th.

To receive more information please contact Christine Weiss at [cweiss@utah.gov](mailto:cweiss@utah.gov)

Note: This funding is for the following counties only- Salt Lake, Duchesne, Uintah, Daggett, Carbon, Emery, Grand, San Juan.

### The Praxis Project is proud to announce the **Call for Proposals for Communities Creating Healthy Environments**

CCHE is a new grant initiative funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to support community organizing and policy advocacy to increase access to healthy food and safe places to play in communities of color. CCHE will provide funding and technical assistance for up to ten local community organizing groups and indigenous nations with grants of up to \$250,000 over three years. Youth led organizing groups in communities of color are strongly encouraged to apply.

For more information visit: <http://cccheonline.org/>

## CONFERENCE SUPPORT / HEALTHCARE

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality is offering a small grant program for conference support. These conferences should further AHRQ's mission to improve the quality, safety, efficiency, and effectiveness of health care for all Americans.

**Eligible Applicants:** School districts, local governments, state government, colleges and universities, etc. as applicant; partnering is not precluded. See announcement.  
Award Amount: Up to \$50,000.

**Application deadline:** Applications accepted on an ongoing basis. This expires on October 21, 2009 unless re-issued.

Program website: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-06-074.html>

Application: <http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do?&mode=VIEW&flag2006=false&oppId=44665>

For more funding opportunities visit the previous issues of *The Connection*  
<http://www.health.utah.gov/cmh/news.html#newsletters>

February is National Black Month

New UDOH Report Series Discusses  
Minority Health (I)

New UDOH Report Series Discusses  
Minority Health (II)

Trainings/Events

Grants

Multicultural Brown Bags



## WE WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU

Please submit: feedback, suggestions, ideas, news, events or articles to: [ddiez@utah.gov](mailto:ddiez@utah.gov)



Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-2001  
P.O. Box 142001  
Phone: 1-888-222-2542  
Fax: 801-538-6591  
[www.health.utah.gov/cmh](http://www.health.utah.gov/cmh)

## The Connection

**Production Editor:**  
Dulce A. Díez

*The Connection* is published monthly

### ABOUT THE CMH

The Center for Multicultural Health (CMH) is the Utah office of minority health. It is part of the Utah Department of Health, Division of Community and Family Health Services.

Our mission is to promote accessible and high-quality programs and policies that help all racial and ethnic minorities in Utah achieve optimal health. We accomplish our mission by increasing public and health professional awareness of persistent race/ethnic disparities and by developing effective health policies and culturally competent programs that lead to better access and utilization of quality health care services in Utah.

[www.health.utah.gov/cmh](http://www.health.utah.gov/cmh)

## MULTICULTURAL BROWN BAG SERIES (Organized by the Center for Multicultural Health)

### February 23<sup>rd</sup> Worlds Apart / Part 1

This unique film follows patients and families faced with critical medical decisions, as they navigate their way through the health care system. **Worlds Apart** provides a balanced yet penetrating look at both the patients' cultures and the culture of medicine.

Duration: 50 minutes (it includes the DVD presentation followed by a brief discussion)

Location: room 125, Utah Department of Health (288 N 1460 W, Salt Lake City.)

Date: February 23, 2009 @ 1:00 pm

### March 3<sup>rd</sup> Worlds Apart / Part 2

As a continuation of Worlds Apart, meet another two culturally and ethnically diverse patients navigating the health care system.

Duration: 50 minutes (it includes the DVD presentation followed by a brief discussion)

Location: room 125, Utah Department of Health (288 N 1460 W, Salt Lake City.)

Date: March 3, 2009 @ 12:00 pm

### Understanding Our Differences: Mexicans and Americans

Excerpt: This documentary explores common misconceptions about Mexican culture as well as stereotypes Mexicans have about their neighbors to the north. Watch a group of teens discuss these questions, see the Petersons and Garcias explore how they differ, and hear ideas to help undo common stereotypes.

Duration: 60 min. (it includes the DVD presentation followed by a brief discussion)

Location: Health and Justice Building 151 S. University Ave., Room 1600, Provo

Date: March 4 @ 12:00 pm

### Deaf Culture

Meet Rusty Wales as he provides training about Deaf culture. His presentation highlights aspects of this important and yet often ignored segment of our community. Rusty reveals aspects of deaf culture that many may be unaware of. This video presentation is in American Sign Language and is interpreted.

Duration: 60 min

Location: room 125, Utah Department of Health (288 N 1460 W, Salt Lake City.)

Date: March 18 @ 1:00 pm

**These brown bags are free and open to the public.  
No registration required**

For more events visit our calendar  
<http://my.calendars.net/multicultural>

February is  
National Black

New UDOH Report  
Series Discusses

New UDOH Report  
Series Discusses

Trainings/Events

Grants

Multicultural Brown  
Bags